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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE DECISION OF 15 AUGUST 1990 CONCERNING PUERTO RICO

Resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1396th meeting, on 15 August 1991

The Special Committee,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico,

Having examined the report of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the implementation of the resolutions concerning Puerto Rico, 1/

Having heard statements and testimony representative of various viewpoints among the people of Puerto Rico and their social institutions,

Bearing in mind the agreement of the Puerto Rican political leadership to request the President of the United States of America and the United States Congress to adopt legislation with a view to consulting the people of Puerto Rico so that they may express themselves freely, voluntarily, democratically and without interference on their political future,

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1/ A/AC.109/L.1768.

Aware of the appeal made by the President of the United States of America, Mr. George Bush, to the Congress that it should take the necessary steps to allow the people of Puerto Rico to exercise as soon as possible their right to self-determination,

Deploring the fact that the United States Congress has not yet adopted the legal framework for the holding of a referendum to enable the people of Puerto Rico to determine their political future through the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Recognizing that the Legislative Assembly and the Governor of Puerto Rico, in the exercise of their powers, have approved legislation declaring Spanish to be the official language,

Hoping that the international community will continue to afford Puerto Rico the opportunity to participate in those international activities which correspond to its political status,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and the application of the fundamental principles of that resolution with respect to Puerto Rico;

2. Trusts that the United States Congress will adopt as soon as possible the legal framework to enable the people of Puerto Rico to exercise their right to self-determination, through popular consultations, in accordance with the principles and practice of the United Nations;

3. Requests the Rapporteur to report to the Special Committee on the implementation of its resolutions concerning Puerto Rico;

4. Decides to keep the question of Puerto Rico under continuing review.